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REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1, 2 and 5 will be amended. Claims 1-11 will remain pending in the application, with Claims 1 and 5 being independent claims. Claims 1, 2 and 4 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Aizawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,814 B1). Claims 5 and 11 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Seidensticker (U.S. Patent No. 6,128,012). Claim 3 is again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aizawa in view of Cushman (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,287). Claim 10 is again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seidensticker. Claims 6-9 remain allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 116 because the amendments:

(a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issues that would require further consideration and/or search as the amendments and arguments presented merely amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and (c) place the application in better form for an appeal, should an appeal be necessary.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part, detecting whether a user has input a key corresponding to a menu, and performing a sub-menu of the menu according to a number of times of consecutive input of the same key. Claim 5 has been amended to recite, in part, controlling directional movement of a cursor on the displayed menu screen depending only on maintenance of the key input state for the predetermined period of time and only after the predetermined time has elapsed.

With respect to Claim 1, Aizawa describes changing from a message display mode to a message scan mode by consecutively pushing dial 17D. However, Aizawa fails to teach or reasonably suggest detecting whether a user has input a key corresponding to a menu, and performing a sub-menu of the menu according to a number of times of consecutive input of the same key.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is allowable over Aizawa.

While not conceding the patentability of the dependent claims, per se, Claims 2-4 and are also allowable for at least the above reason.

With respect to Claim 5, Seidensticker describes initiating a fast scrolling rate after depressing a key for a predetermined period of time. However, Seidensticker fails to teach or reasonably suggest controlling directional movement of a cursor on the displayed menu screen depending only on maintenance of the key input state for the predetermined period of time and only after the predetermined time has elapsed.

Accordingly, Claim 5 is allowable over Seidensticker.

While not conceding the patentability of the dependent claims, per se, Claims 6-11 and are also allowable for at least the above reason.

Applicants respectfully submit that the proposed amendments made herein properly respond to the outstanding Final Rejection and represent a bona fide effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application. Care has been exercised to insure that no new matter has been introduced and that no new issues have been raised that would require further consideration or search. It is felt that no inordinate amount of time will be required on the part of the Examiner to review and consider this amendment. In the event that the application is not allowed, it is requested that this amendment be entered for purposes of appeal.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-11, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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